

Docket No.: F-296 (532/22)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Ralph et al.

Group Art Unit: 3732

Application No.: 10/706,766

Filed: November 12, 2003

Examiner: Blanco, J.

For: INTERVERTEBRAL SPACER DEVICE

HAVING A MULTI-PRONGED DOMED

SPRING

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed April 21, 2004, please reconsider the aboveidentified patent application in light of the following amendments and remarks:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Bax 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: July 21, 2004

Signature:

Print Name: Timothy X. Gibson

PTO/SB/21 (04-04) Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. 10/70G, 766 November 12, 2003 Application Number TRANSMITTAL Filing Date ALPh et al. **FORM** First Named Inventor Art Unit (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) BLANCO, J **Examiner Name** Attorney Docket Number Total Number of Pages in This Submission **ENCLOSURES** (Check all that apply) After Allowance communication Fee Transmittal Form Drawing(s) to Technology Center (TC) Appeal Communication to Board Licensing-related Papers of Appeals and Interferences Fee Attached Appeal Communication to TC Petition (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Amendment/Reply Petition to Convert to a Proprietary Information After Final Provisional Application

Power of Attorney, Revocation Status Letter Change of Correspondence Address Affidavits/declaration(s) Other Enclosure(s) (please **Terminal Disclaimer** Identify below): Extension of Time Request Return Postcard Request for Refund Express Abandonment Request CD, Number of CD(s) Information Disclosure Statement Remarks Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT X. GIBSON- Reg. No. 40,618 Firm Individual name Signature Date 200 4

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

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Timothy X. GIBSON

Signature

Date 7/21/0

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.